Norman A. Pray

Services for Norman A. Pray, 54, Rapid Valley, a former Groton resident, were conducted Monday, Aug. 30, at Catron's Boulevard Chapel with the Reverend Ralph Smith, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church, officiating.

Pray died about noon Friday at a Rapid City hospital following a coronary attack Thursday night.

He was born March 6, 1917, in Brown County. He was a 1935 graduate of Groton High School. He was married to Dorothy Henley on December 31, 1938, at Ipswich.

He served in the old U.S. Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1946 and was stationed at Weaver Air Base (now Ellsworth) for part of that time.

He lived at Groton and Aberdeen for several years where he was employed as a sales representative for several food and dry goods firms.

Pray moved to Rapid City in 1959 and formed Turbo-Prop Inc., a charter plane and aircraft repair and maintenance firm, in July of 1964, operating at the Rapid City Regional Airport. He also operated the airport cafe from 1965 to 1969.

He was a member of the local chapter of Elks.

His survivors include the widow, and a son, Allen, Rapid City; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pray, Groton; two brothers, Floyd and Robert, both of rural Groton; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one sister.

Burial was in Black Hills National Cemetery with military honors by veterans organizations.